LAST
comic
Translator
Shouger
Cleaner
Hyden
Proofreader
Fumei
*misaki

Pounding hearts. What are these young men sweating for?!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH ORDINARY PEOPLE MAY STRIVE FOR IT, THEIR EFFORTS WILL JUST END IN VAIN.
TO LEAD A RADIANT LIFE, ONE NEEDS TALENT.
New Series
新連載!!
SFX. BAM
ARHHH !!
AIM FOR NOTHING, DO NOTHING...
THAT WAY, LIFE WILL BE PLEASANT ..
ONE-TWO, HOOK*!!
MID-DLE** !!

*TWO JABS FOLLOWED BY A HOOK
**ATTACK OPPONENT'S MID SECTION

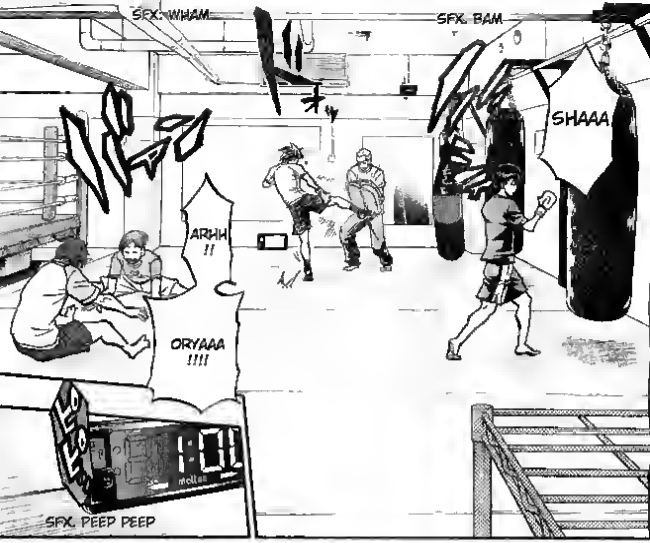
New generation Martial Arts Drama.

Riding a bike through a narrow alleyway... Is dangerous!!
Chapter 1: Ordinary People
SFX: VROOMMMMMMMM
AAAA

... HAS NO WAY THROUGH!!!
SFX: VROOM!!!
SFX: PUMP PUMP PUMP
AAAAAA
YO-
YOSH!!
"YOSH" MY ASS!
YOU JERK, ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!

HOW'S THAT? DID YOU FRESHEN UP A BIT?
WELL, WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO? I DRANK TOO MUCH YESTERDAY...
THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT AN EXCUSE...
AND THE ONE WHO WORKED OVERTIME FOR YOU WAS ME, OKAY!
IF SOMETHING WENT WRONG, I WOULD NEVER WAKE UP AGAIN. EVER.
OI, DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IF WE'RE LATE AGAIN TODAY, OUR PART-TIME IS OVER, Y'KNOW?
Stroke's
KICKBOXING & TOTAL TRAINING GYM
SO IN THE END, THAT'S WHAT ALL THIS IS ABOUT?
THIS BRAT!
YOU'RE GOING THERE AGAIN AFTER WORK, RIGHT? IS IT THAT INTERESTING?
THAT "KICK-BOXING"?

SFX: WHAM
SHI SHI SU
ONE-TWO, HOOK!!
ARHHH
SFX: WHAM
SFX: BAM
ARH HH
LAST ONE!! REPEATED MIDDLE ATTACK!!
SFX: WHAM


SFX. WHAM
SFX. BAM
SHAAA
ARHH !!
ORYAAA !!!!
SFX. PEEP PEEP

HUFF
HUFF
MANA-GER...
DO YOU NEED ME TO GO EASY ON YOU?
FWAHH
HAHAHA ... WAS IT TOO HARD ON YOU, WATARU?

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE DYING, THOUGH.
IT FEELS FREAKIN' EXHILARATING

GYM
KARATE
BOXING
SWIMMING
I'VE BEEN THINKING OF TAKING UP A SPORT AND HAVE TRIED VARIOUS ONES.
BUT SHOUTING WITH ALL MY MIGHT. PUNCHING AND KICKING. KICKBOXING IS REALLY THE BEST.
HAHAHA. THAT IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT.

BY THE WAY, WATARU. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU'VE JOINED US?
3 OR 4 MONTHS, I GUESS.

EH?
AREN'T YOU INTERESTED IN A MATCH?
BUT...
OF COURSE, I WON'T FORCE YOU INTO IT.
BUT WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ONCE?
NO, NO. I'M ONLY GOOD AT RELEASING MY STRESS.
YOU COME HERE 4 TIMES A WEEK RIGHT? ISN'T IT A WASTE?
OI, KOSUGE!
WHO IS KINDA TROUBLED AS HE HAS NO ONE TO PRACTISE WITH.
THERE'S THIS FIGHTER IN THE NEXT AMATEUR TOURNAMENT,

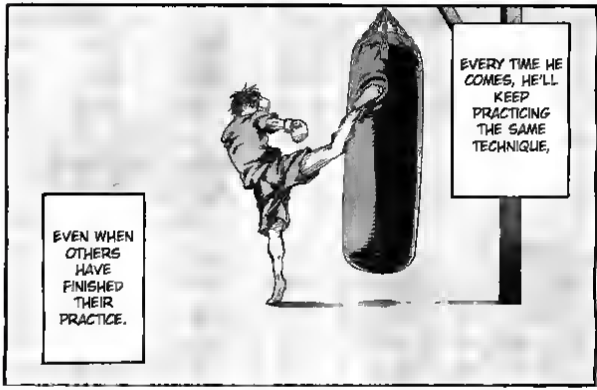
EH? BUT I HAVEN'T...
HAVE A MATCH WITH WATARU. BUT GO EASY ON HIM.
AH, YES!!

LET'S HAVE A GOOD MATCH!!

I KNOW THIS GUY..
Y-YEAH

YEAH?

NO, IT'S NOT LIKE I KNOW WHO HE IS, BUT...


EVERY TIME HE COMES, HE'LL KEEP PRACTICING THE SAME TECHNIQUE,
EVEN WHEN OTHERS HAVE FINISHED THEIR PRACTICE.

BUT NOW THAT I'VE FOUGHT AGAINST HIM, I KNOW...
I ALSO HEARD THAT HE HAS APPEARED IN SOME AMATEUR TOURNAMENTS, BUT LOST IN MOST OF THEM.

SFX: WHOOSH
SFX: WHAM
!
Punch
THIS GUY IS JUST WEAK.
OH?
SFX: WHOOSH
SFX: WHOOSH
SFX: HUH?!
SHH!!
!!
OH? HE GOT SERIOUS...
THIS IS!

SFX: WHOOSH
THE KICK HE'S BEEN PRACTISING
!!
... THANKS.
I COULDN'T LAY A HAND ON YOU AT ALL.
TH-THANK YOU!
OKAY, STOP.
PEEP PEEP
I HAVE GOOD MOVE-MENTS? NO... EVEN NEWBIES WOULD KNOW.
NOPE.
EH?!
HAVE YOU HAD EXPERIENCE WITH MARTIAL ARTS BEFORE?
WATARU, YOU'VE GOT SOME GOOD MOVEMENTS THERE

"XCUSE ME. I HEARD THAT YOU'VE PARTICIPATED IN QUITE A FEW MATCHES
IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR REASON WHY?
I WONDER...

THIS GUY JUST HAS NO "TALENT"..

EKH?
AH, YEAH I'M KINDA—.
...AIMING TO BE A PRO..

I THINK THAT OF MYSELF. ALSO I HAVE BAD REFLEXES... BUT,
NO,NO. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
HAHAHA... I KNOW IT'S KINDA IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME.

I SEE.
I'LL JUST DO WHATEVER I CAN.
SINCE I STARTED DOING THIS BECAUSE I ENJOY IT,
EKH? NO, I THINK THAT IT'S VERY GOOD.
HAHAHA
AKH, NOT THAT IT CONCERNS YOU ANYWAY, RIGHT? SORRY...
IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S JUST DOING WHAT HE WANTS.
I'LL BE GOING THEN!
NO, IT'S TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE. SORRY
WANNA GO ANOTHER ROUND?

GLUG
GLUG
JUST FOR SELF-SATISFACTION.

YEAHH. . THIS IS FOR MY SELF-SATISFACTION.
MASTER, ONE MORE COLD BEER!
WHAT'S THAT?

BWAHH
YOU'RE DRINKING QUITE A LOT TODAY, WATARU.

NEXT MONTH. IT'S HIS LAST TOURNAMENT IN HIGH SCHOOL.
I HEARD IT'S A TOURNAMENT DETERMINES THE GYMNASTIC RECOMMENDATION.
THEN HE'LL BE AN OLYMPIC REPRESENTATIVE WITH A GOLD MEDAL HUH? HE'S A REAL GENIUS..

BY THE WAY, YOUR BROTHER'S TOURNAMENT IS DRAWING CLOSER RIGHT?
SHOU-HEI'S? WHEN IS IT?

ON MAGZ: TECHNIQUE TO WEAR SHIRTS WITH ROLLED-UP SLEEVES.

ON MAGZ: NUMBER 1, NEW GENERATION

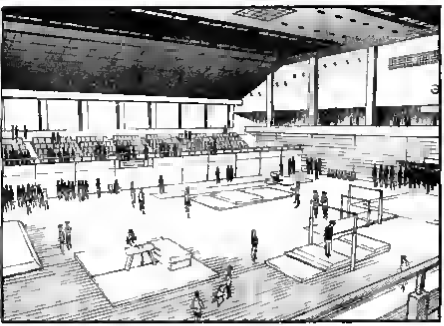
ON MAGZ: TORISHIMA SHOUHEI.

OPEN
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS, WATARU?
SINCE SUCH A STAR IS IN OUR NEIGHBOR-HOOD,
A GENIUS AND A DRUNK.
W-WELL ...
HAHAHA
THEN AGAIN, THAT'S A FREAKING LARGE DIFFERENCE HUH?
DIDN'T YOU ALSO DO THE SAME SPORT, WATARU?

A CHEERING BANNER!
UOOO!! THIS IS GREAT!
Fight!
Expand your wings!
We're cheering you on!
Tobishima Shouhei
飛鳥照平
WE MADE IT ON OUR OWN, BUT THIS IS A SYMBOL THAT THE WHOLE TOWN IS CHEERING HIM ON!!

WATARU, WILL YOU PLEASE HAND IT TO HIM?
EH? YEAH, OF COURSE. I'LL BE GLAD TO.
THUMP
MASTER, MAY I WRITE MINE ON IT TOO?
YEAH, GO AHEAD!

THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
I HAVEN'T
THIS FEELING...
SFX: CLATTER
OUCH!!
SFX: ROLLS
DAMN. THIS IS JUST A MEETING WITH MY BROTHER, RIGHT?!
AKH!!
SFX: SLAM
SFX: ROLL ROLL
NO, IT'S NOT! I'M JUST NERVOUS SINCE IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST MET HIM!!
THUMP
ANYWAY, HE'S A STAR.
THUMP
DO I NEED AN APPOINT-MENT?! OR SOMETHING LIKE A GIFT?
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?



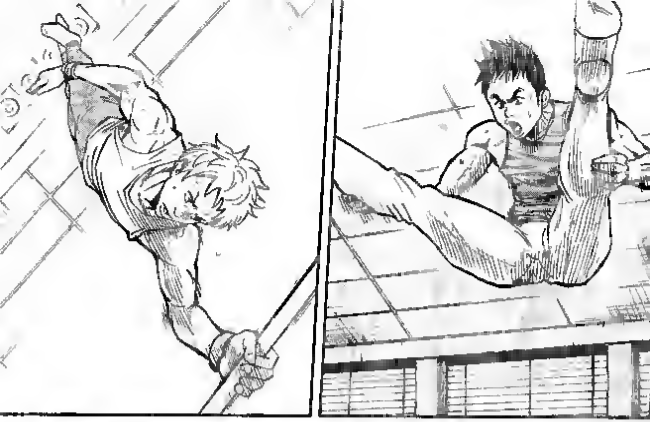
NORTH YAMATO PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL

IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO ENTER ON MY OWN?
SO MANY PEOPLE
THERE ARE EVEN REPORTERS HERE

EXCUSE ME PLEASE LET ME THROUGH ...
ACT NOR-MALLY ...

I SHOULD JUST ACT NORMALLY !!
LIKE I SAID, I CAME HERE TO MEET MY BROTHER!!

I EVEN BOUGHT A GIFT



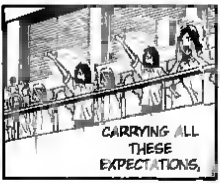
AS EXPECTED OF THE FAMOUS GYMNASTIC SCHOOL... THEY'RE AT A HIGH-LEVEL
BUT,

!?
Kyaaaa!

THOSE WHO PRACTICE GYMNASTICS WILL UNDERSTAND
THE NATURAL FLEXIBILITY HE INHERITED FROM HIS MOTHER.
HE IS ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL...
SFX: THUD
SFX: TURNS
SFX: CHATTER CHATTER
SHOUHEI!
SFX: JUMP

THE WINNER WAS DECIDED SINCE THE BEGINNING...
SFX. CROWD CHEERS

I RESPECT YOU.
MY BROTHER THAT I'M SO PROUD OF.
I WANNA CHEER FOR YOU WITH ALL MY HEART.
THOSE WERE NOT LIES.


CARRYING ALL THESE EXPECTATIONS,

AND CONTINUING TO FIGHT.

SHOUHEI, YOU'RE AWESOME...

KUH...
...!
DAMN. I WANNA HIT THOSE SANDBAGS AT GYM TO RELIE—.
WATARU...
MP
BUT...
THUMP
I'M STILL BEING HELD BACK BY THAT...
THUMP

LONG TIME NO SEE.
I GUESS IT'S BEEN 3 YEARS, HUH?
!!
BUT THIS PLACE PROHIBITS ANY OUTSIDERS.
NO EXCEPTIONS, EVEN IF YOU'RE MY SON.
MOM...!

WATARU, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THESE DAYS?
CHEER?
NOTHING. I'M JUST HERE TO CHEER SHOUHEI ON BEFORE HIS GREAT TOURNAMENT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
N-NO WAY.. THAT'S NOT IT.
KICKBOXING?! ARE YOU PLANNING ON BEING A MARTIAL ARTIST?
PART-TIMING, PRACTISING KICKBOXING AT THE GYM. THAT'S ABOUT IT.
NOTHING IN PARTI-CULAR.
EVEN THOUGH YOU SAY YOU WANT TO CHEER HIM ON..
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? CAN'T I COME TO CHEER ON MY BROTHER?!
WHA-
BASICALLY YOU'RE JUST SLACKING OFF. WHAT A WORRISOME SITUATION
NOT REALLY IT IS JUST A COMMON DELIVERY JOB
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY PART-TIMING? IS IT SOMEKIND LIKE INTERNSHIP?

THE ONLY PERSON WHO CHEERS WITH SUCH A FACE, IS YOU, WATARU.

I...
I DON'T THINK HE NEEDS FAKE CHEERING, YOU KNOW?
I NOTICED THAT EXPRESSION JUST NOW. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT

I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF INTEREST IN GYMNASTICS
AND, I'M ENJOYING MY LIFE IN MY OWN WAY.
I WANNA CHEER ON SHOUHEI WITH ALL MY HEART.
THEN WHY ARE YOU JEALOUS OF HIM?
I'M NOT!
.....
I SEE...
BY THE WAY, YOU CAME AT A GOOD TIME.
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO GIVE TO YOU.
DO YOU MIND COMING WITH ME?

COME IN.
TALE -NT.
INDEED, SHOUHEI HAS IT IN HIM. BUT,
CLUB ACTIVITIES IN THE MORNING AND AFTERNOON. TOUGH TRAINING BASED ON MY SPECIAL MENU,
THOROUGH SUPERVISION ON HIS FOOD, SLEEP AND REST.
THESE ARE THE RESULTS OF HIM GIVING HIS ALL FOR GYMNASTICS.
WHAT WAS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO GIVE TO ME?

THIS IS?!
HERE YOU GO
THIS IS THE ONLY MEDAL,
!!
THAT YOU WON OVER SHOUHEI IN GYMNASTICS.
SHOUHEI HAS THE SAME THINKING AS ME...
SHOU-HEI?!
IN HIS DRAWER. WITH GREAT CARE.
SHOUHEI HAS BEEN KEEPING IT.
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT FROM?

THIS MEDAL IS NO SUCH THING.
THAT MEDAL IS PROOF.
NO...
WATARU, YOU CAN SUCCEED IF YOU STRIVE FOR IT.
YOU MAY HAVE GIVEN UP ON GYMNASTICS,
.....
BUT YOU NEED TO PUT IN MORE EFFORT INTO YOUR OWN LIFE
REACH OUT
I'M REQUESTING THIS AS A MOTHER, PLEASE COME HOME TODAY.
I WANT YOU TO BE ABLE TO CHEER WHOLE-HEARTEDLY.
THE CURRENT YOU HAS NOT PUT IN ENOUGH.

I'VE UNDER-STOOD FOR A LONG TIME,
THIS IS A CHEERING DINNER, NOT FROM ME, BUT FROM OUR NEIGHBOURS
PLEASE PASS IT TO HIM.
EVEN I.
DON'T WANT TO CUT THE GROUND FROM UNDER SHOUHEI'S FEET A SECOND TIME
...WATA-RU?

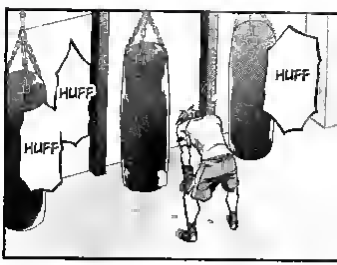
SFX: LOUD IMPACT
SFX: PUNCH
NII-CHAN, YOU'RE AWESOME!!

ONE MORE TIME!! HOW DID YOU DO IT?
IF YOU PRACTISE A LOT, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT.
AN OLYMPIC REPRESENTATIVE KID?! THAT'S AMAZING..
WATARU.

I DON'T NEED A RUNNER-UP.
IT'S MEANING-LESS UNLESS YOU'RE A CHAMPION
NII-CHAN, LOOK!
I'LL ALSO PRACTISE GYMNASTICS AND AIM FOR THE OLYMPICS!!
ON TROPHY: CHAMPION, TOHSHIMA SHOUHEI
SORRY, WATARU I WON'T BE COACHING YOU AGAIN.

EVEN IF IT'S FOR YOUR OWN SAKE
AARGHHHH
SFX: PUNCH
YOU COULDN'T BE NUMBER 1.
AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FROM NOW ON.
SFX: PEEP PEEP
0:00
motion

WATARU


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

P-PLEASE!!
SORRY, CAN I ASK YOU TO BE KOSUGE'S SPARRING OPPONENT AGAIN?

I'M KINDA AIMING TO BE A PRO.
SINCE I STARTED DOING THIS BECAUSE I ENJOY IT,
I'LL JUST DO WHATEVER I CAN.
?
Strike's

THAT'S FINE WITH ME.

JUST ORDINARY SPARRING
MANAGER, WHAT ARE THOSE TWO DOING OVER THERE?

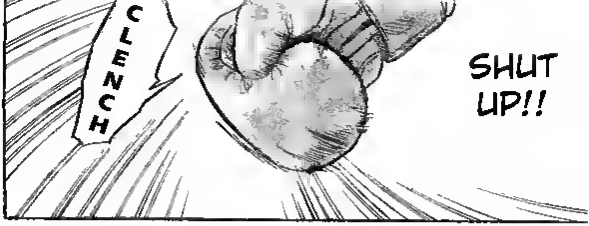
LET ME TEACH YOU.
SFX: WHAM
WHAT LIES AT THE END.
UKH ...
OF AN ORDINARY, PERSON'S SELF-SATISFYING EFFORT.

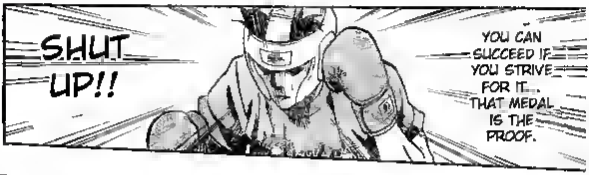
TRY TO BEAT ME DOWN!!
AGGHH
SFX: WHAM
URYAA !!
UKH!

SFX: PUNCH
KUH
YOU NEED THIS THING CALLED "TALENT"!
SFX: WHOOSH
NO MATTER WHAT,
!!
SFX: WHAM

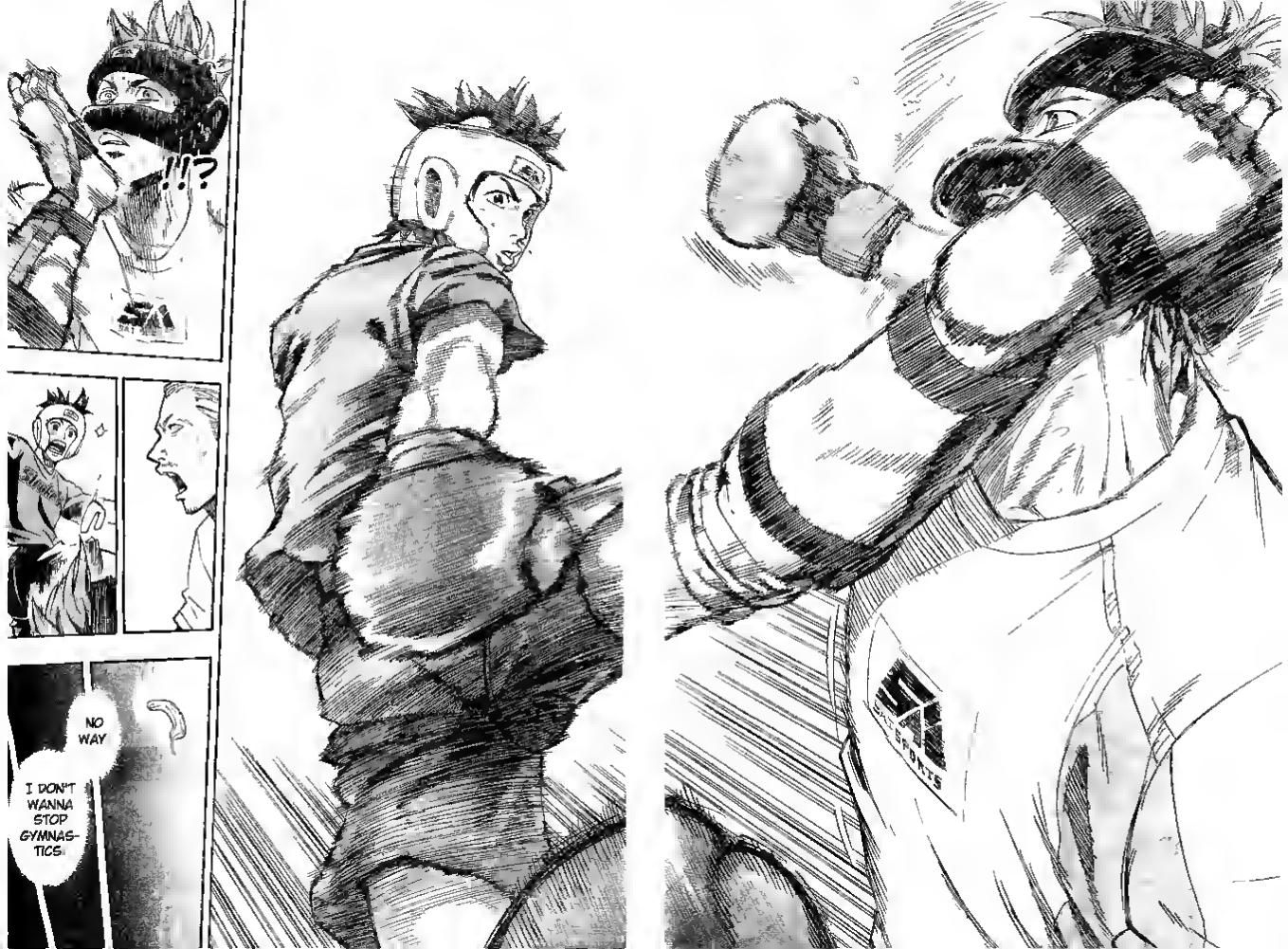
I THOUGHT THAT HE WAS GOOD AT DODGING ATTACKS,
BUT THIS HIT RATE...
THIS KID...
HOW COULD HE GET SO MANY MUCH PUNCHES IN?
WATARU -KUN'S ATTACKS ARE FULL OF FLAWS, BUT HE'S STRONG!

MANAGER, KOSUGE-KUN'S IN DANGER!
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND SHOUHEI IS NOT ONLY TALENT..!


CLENCH
SHUT UP!!


SHUT UP!!
YOU CAN SUCCEED IF YOU STRIVE FOR IT... THAT MEDAL IS THE PROOF.

UOOOOOOO
SHUT THE FUCK UP!!
SAI SPORT


!!?
NO WAY
I DON'T WANNA STOP GYMNASTICS.

I'LL PRACTISE HARDER AND BE FIRST.
I DID IT!!
MOM.
SHOUHEI!
EVEN I...
WHAT'S THAT, SHOUHEI?
WE CAN ENTER THE OLYMPICS TOGETHER.
Certificate
Champion
Tobishima Wataru
YOU.
...LOST INTENTIONALLY, DIDN'T YOU?
THAT'S BECAUSE...

NII-CHAN WANTED TO WIN SO BADLY...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
AKH...
WATA-RU?
I CAN'T KEEP BEING SELFISH LIKE THIS.
WATA-RU!!
I CUT THE GROUND FROM UNDER SHOUHEI'S FEET.
ARE YOU OK?

I...
UKH... LIL...
DON'T GET IT ANY-MORE.

ABOUT THAT, I...
NEVER MIND. IT TURNED OUT TO BE A GOOD PRACTICE FOR KOSUGE.

COME WITH ME FOR A BIT.

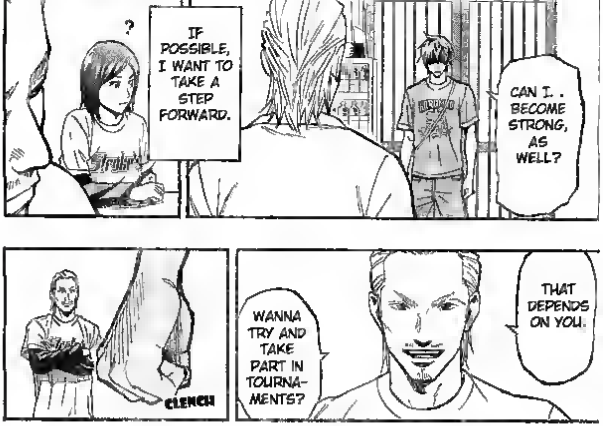
I'M EXTREMELY SORRY!!
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU CRIED OUT OF THE BLUE. I THOUGHT YOU HIT YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING.

TO BE HONEST, I WAS SURPRISED WHEN KOGUGE TOLD ME THAT HE WANTED TO TAKE PART IN TOURNAMENTS.
CLUMSY, TIMID, BAD REFLEXES... NO MATTER HOW YOU SEE IT, HE JUST DOESN'T FIT THIS SPORT.
THIS IS SOMETHING HE UNDERSTAND THE BEST.
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
STAMINA, SENSE... ESPECIALLY SINCE HE HAS NONE HE PRACTICES HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE.
FINALLY, WHAT HE ACHIEVED IS THAT HIGH-KICK THAT K.O.-ED YOU.
IN TOURNAMENTS, HE LOST REPEATEDLY. HE CRIED AND WAS FRUSTRATED.
BUT HE NEVER GAVE UP.

DURING HIS 7TH MATCH, HE TOOK DOWN HIS OPPONENT WITH THAT HIGH-KICK,
AND FINALLY EARNED HIS FIRST VICTORY.
NORMALLY A HIGH-KICK WON'T HIT THE TARGET.
IN KOSUGE'S CASE, HIS LEGS ARE ALSO SHORT.
WITHSTANDING ATTACKS WHILE AIMING FOR THE RIGHT TIME WHEN HIS OPPONENT LETS DOWN HIS GUARD.
JUST LIKE TODAY.
FOR KOSUGE, THAT ONE MATCH IS,
A BIG VICTORY THAT HE FINALLY EARNED, AFTER TRAINING FOR TWO AND A HALF YEARS
HE'S A STRONG MAN.
HAHA. THAT'S NOT IT.

WHEN ONE FINALLY WINS SOMETHING AFTER FIGHTING FOR IT WITH ALL HIS MIGHT,
HE'LL GROW STRONG TOGETHER WITH HIS CONFIDENCE.
BECAUSE HE'S WEAK, HE'S FIGHTING FOR IT.
KOSUGE'S THE SAME.
IF HE REALLY DOES NOT GIVE UP AND BECOMES A PRO...
TO LEAD A RADIANT LIFE, ONE NEEDS TALENT.
...I'M SURE HE'LL BECOME A STRONG PERSON.

SFX: CLONK
ゴトン
NO MATTER HOW ORDINARY PEOPLE STRIVE FOR IT, THEIR EFFORTS WILL JUST END IN VAIN. THAT'S WHAT I ONCE THOUGHT.
BUT,
WHAT I ONCE THOUGHT WAS MEANING-LESS EFFORT,
FOR SOME PEOPLE, IT IS A BIG STEP FORWARD.
MANA-GER,
SORRY TO LET YOU WORRY UNTIL NOW, SHOUHEI


?
IF POSSIBLE, I WANT TO TAKE A STEP FORWARD.
CAN I. . BECOME STRONG, AS WELL?
CLENCH
WANNA TRY AND TAKE PART IN TOURNA-MENTS?
THAT DEPENDS ON YOU.

I ALSO WANT TO TAKE THAT STEP.
YEAH!!
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME!!
-Chapter 1 End-